

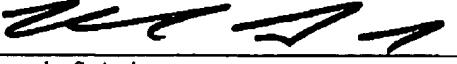
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PATENT

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9306 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 10-4-04
Himanshu S. Amin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Mark T. Anders, *et al.*

Examiner: Yasin M. Barqadle

Serial No: 09/666,246

Art Unit: 2153

Filing Date: September 21, 2000

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD PROVIDING MULTI-TIER APPLICATIONS ARCHITECTURE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 27, 2004

Dear Sir:

Favorable consideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and comments below.